

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TRSE-00 /072 W

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O R 151442Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9065
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 BONN 10025

DEPARTMENT PLEASE NOTIFY EUR/CE ON RECEIPT

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, WB, GE, UR, GW, US, UK, FR
SUBJECT: GDR THREATS AGAINST CDU RALLY IN BERLIN

REFS: (A) BONN 9966; (B) BONN 9908;
(C) STATE 134313; (D) BONN 9743

BEGIN SUMMARY: THIS MESSAGE RECAPITULATES THE STATUS
OF BONN GROUP CONSIDERATION OF A CONTINGENCY ALLIED
PROTEST TO THE SOVIETS, IN THE EVENT OF INTERFERENCE
WITH TRANSIT TO BERLIN ON JUNE 16, AND OF PROPOSED
ALLIED PRESS HANDLING. TEXT OF THE CONTINGENCY
PROTEST, ALLIED PRESS STATEMENT AND SUPPLEMENTAL
PRESS GUIDANCE ARE REPEATED BELOW FOR EASE OF
REFERENCE. ACTION REQUESTED: APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT
PRESS STATEMENT AND PRESS GUIDANCE. END SUMMARY
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1. THE BONN GROUP MET THE MORNING OF JUNE 15 TO
CONSIDER BRITISH INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING THE DRAFT
PRESS GUIDANCE (REF B, PARAS 11 AND 12) AND
REVISED FRENCH INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING THE DRAFT
ALLIED PROTEST TO THE SOVIETS (REFS A AND D).

2. ON THE ALLIED PROTEST, PARIS AGREED TO WITHDRAW ITS REQUEST FOR AMENDMENT OF THE THIRD PARAGRAPH OF THE BONN GROUP AD REF TEXT (REF D, PARA 11), ON CONDITION THAT THE FIRST PARAGRAPH BE LIMITED TO THE FIRST SENTENCE. THE OTHER REPS ACCEPTED THIS CONDITION, AND THE TEXT IS THUS AGREED EXCEPT FOR THE FINAL BRACKETED PORTION OF THE SECOND PARAGRAPH ON WHICH LONDON MAINTAINS RESERVATIONS. THE UK REP (EYERS) UNDERSTANDS THAT LONDON DOES NOT RULE OUT USING THAT PORTION BUT WILL RESERVE JUDGMENT UNTIL THE ACTUAL EVENTS OF JUNE 16 HAVE BEEN EVALUATED. THE FULL TEXT OF THE DRAFT PROTEST AS IT NOW STANDS IS REPEATED IN PARAGRAPH 5 BELOW.

3. FOR THE CONTINGENCY ALLIED PRESS STATEMENT (REF B, PARA 11), EYERS REPORTED THAT LONDON WAS WILLING TO ACCEPT THE TEXT--SUBJECT TO A FINAL APPROVAL BEFORE IT IS ACTUALLY ISSUED--WITH ONE AMENDMENT AT THE END OF THE SECOND PARAGRAPH TO CHANGE THE STATEMENT THAT THE TRANSIT AGREEMENT WAS AN "INTEGRAL PART" OF THE QA. THIS CHANGE WAS ACCEPTED BY THE OTHER REPS, AND THE REVISED TEXT IS REPEATED IN PARAGRAPH 6 BELOW. THE FRENCH AND FRG REPS HAD APPROVAL OF THE EARLIER TEXT AND ASSUMED THAT THE CHANGE WOULD CAUSE NO DIFFICULTIES. THE US REP REPORTED THAT HE WAS STILL AWAITING INSTRUCTIONS.

4. LONDON ALSO REQUESTED A MODIFICATION OF THE ANSWER TO THE THIRD QUESTION IN THE CONTINGENCY
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PRESS GUIDANCE (PARA 12, REF B), TO AVOID ANY IMPLICATION THAT A DECISION ON AN ALLIED PROTEST WAS SEPARATE FROM A DECISION ON ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY THE ALLIES. THE OTHER REPS ACCEPTED THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT. LONDON ALSO WANTED THE ANSWER TO QUESTION NUMBER 4 "STRENGTHENED" BY ADDITION OF A QUOTATION OF THE LANGUAGE FROM ANNEX I OF THE QA ON MISUSE OF THE TRANSIT ROUTES. EYERS AGREED TO RECOMMEND THAT THIS CHANGE NOT BE PRESSED IN VIEW OF THE OPPOSITION FROM THE OTHER THREE BONN GROUP REPS. THE CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE IS REPEATED IN PARAGRAPH 7 BELOW. THE GUIDANCE HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE FRG, FRANCE, AND THE UK (ASSUMING LONDON AGREES NOT TO PRESS THE ONE CHANGE MENTIONED ABOVE). APPROVAL FROM THE DEPARTMENT IS AWAITED.

ALLIED PROTEST

5. FOLLOWING IS THE REVISED TEXT OF THE CONTINGENCY

ALLIED PROTEST TO THE SOVIETS:

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O R 151442Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9066
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 03 BONN 10025

BEGIN TEXT

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES (FRANCE,
THE UNITED KINGDOM) HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT ON JUNE 16
OFFICIALS OF THE GDR REFUSED OR DELAYED PASSAGE TO
BERLIN ON THE TRANSIT ROUTES TO NUMEROUS CIVILIAN
TRAVELLERS.

I HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO INFORM YOU THAT MY
GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THESE ACTIONS BY THE AUTHORITIES
OF THE GDR ILLEGAL AND UNACCEPTABLE. THE GRAVITY
WITH WHICH MY GOVERNMENT VIEWS THE INCIDENTS ON THE
TRANSIT ROUTES ON JUNE 16 IS HEIGHTENED BY THE FACT
THAT THIS IS THE SECOND OCCASION IN LESS THAN A YEAR
ON WHICH AUTHORITIES OF THE GDR HAVE SERIOUSLY
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IMPEDED NORMAL TRANSIT TRAFFIC BETWEEN THE FRG AND THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN (BEGIN UK BRACKETS) IN AN APPARENT ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE DECISIONS CONCERNING EVENTS TAKING PLACE INSIDE THE WESTERN SECTORS (END UK BRACKETS).

IN THE QA OF SEPTEMBER 3, 1971, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE USSR DECLARED THAT THE TRANSIT TRAFFIC OF CIVILIAN PERSONS AND GOODS BETWEEN THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY WILL BE UNIMPEDED. THERE IS NO JUSTIFICATION IN THE QA FOR IMPEDING TRANSIT ON THE BASIS OF EVENTS OCCURRING IN THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN OR OF TRAVELLERS' REASONS FOR GOING THERE, NOR HAS THE GDR ANY COMPETENCE TO DETERMINE THE PROPRIETY OF ACTIVITIES OR EVENTS IN THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN.

THE OBSTRUCTION OF TRANSIT TRAFFIC WHICH OCCURRED ON JUNE 16 CONSTITUTED A CLEAR VIOLATION OF THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT TO ENSURE THAT SUCH VIOLATIONS DO NOT OCCUR. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES (FRANCE, UNITED KINGDOM) EXPECT THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT TO SEE TO IT THAT SUCH VIOLATIONS DO NOT OCCUR IN THE FUTURE.

END TEXT

ALLIED PRESS STATEMENT

6. FOLLOWING IS THE REVISED TEXT OF THE CONTINGENCY PRESS STATEMENT WHICH ALLIED EMBASSIES WOULD WISH TO ISSUE, PROBABLY NO LATER THAN EARLY AFTERNOON OF JUNE 17, IF WARRANTED BY THE EVENTS OF THE PREVIOUS DAY:

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BEGIN TEXT

THE EMBASSIES OF FRANCE, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE UNITED STATES IN BONN HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT THERE WERE PROLONGED DELAYS IN THE PROCESSING OF CIVILIAN TRAFFIC ON THE TRANSIT ROUTES TO BERLIN ON JUNE 16 AND THAT LARGE NUMBERS OF CIVILIAN TRAVELLERS WERE REFUSED PERMISSION TO USE THE TRANSIT ROUTES. THE

ALLIES, LIKE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT,
ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED BY THIS OBSTRUCTION TO UNIMPEDED
ACCESS TO BERLIN. THEY HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT THE
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS ASKED FOR AN IMMEDIATE MEETING
OF THE COMMISSION ESTABLISHED UNDER THE INNER-GERMAN
TRANSIT AGREEMENT OF DECEMBER 17, 1971.

IN THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT WHICH WAS CONCLUDED
IN BERLIN ON SEPTEMBER 3, 1971, BY FRANCE, THE UNITED
KINGDOM, THE UNITED STATES, AND THE SOVIET UNION,
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOVIET UNION DECLARED THAT
TRANSIT TRAFFIC THROUGH THE TERRITORY OF THE GDR OF
CIVILIAN PERSONS AND GOODS BETWEEN THE WESTERN SECTORS
OF BERLIN AND THE FRG WILL BE UNIMPEDED. DETAILED
ARRANGEMENTS CONCERNING THIS CIVILIAN TRAFFIC WERE
AGREED IN THE INNER-GERMAN TRANSIT AGREEMENT, WHICH IS
INSEPARABLE FROM THE QA AND WAS BROUGHT INTO FORCE
TOGETHER WITH THE QA BY THE FINAL QUADRIPARTITE
PROTOCOL OF JUNE 3, 1972.

THE ALLIES ARE STAYING IN
CONSTANT CONTACT WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN ORDER
TO DETERMINE WHAT FURTHER STEPS ARE WARRANTED.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 03 OF 03 BONN 10025

END TEXT

SUPPLEMENTAL PRESS GUIDANCE

7. FOLLOWING IS THE REVISED TEXT OF GUIDANCE FOR
ANSWERING FOLLOW UP PRESS QUERIES.

BEGIN TEXT

(1) Q: DOES THE ALLIED STATEMENT MEAN THAT THERE
WAS A VIOLATION OF THE QA?

A: IF FULL INVESTIGATION CONFIRMS INITIAL REPORTS
OF WHAT OCCURRED, IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO AVOID THE
CONCLUSION THAT THERE HAS BEEN A VIOLATION OF THE
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PROVISIONS OF THE QA CONCERNING UNIMPEDED CIVILIAN
TRANSIT TO BERLIN.

(2) Q: WHAT DO THE ALLIES INTEND TO DO?

A: THIS IS A MATTER FOR DECISION BY THE THREE
ALLIED GOVERNMENTS, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT, AFTER ALL THE FACTS ARE KNOWN.

(3) Q: ARE YOU PROTESTING TO THE SOVIETS?

A: AS I HAVE SAID, THE ALLIED REACTION IS A
MATTER FOR DECISION AFTER ALL THE FACTS ARE KNOWN. I
WOULD NOT RULE OUT SUCH A PROTEST. OBSERVANCE OF
THE SOVIET ASSURANCES ON UNIMPEDED TRANSIT TO AND
FROM BERLIN IS CRUCIAL FOR THE ELIMINATION OF TENSION
AND THE PREVENTION OF COMPLICATIONS IN THE BERLIN AREA.

(4) Q: THE SOVIET UNION AND THE GDR HAVE CLAIMED THAT
THE DEMONSTRATION PLANNED IN WEST BERLIN FOR JUNE 16
AND 17 WAS A PROVOCATION WHICH JUSTIFIED THE REFUSAL
OF TRANSIT TO PARTICIPANTS IN THE DEMONSTRATION. WHAT
IS YOUR COMMENT ON THAT CLAIM?

A. THERE IS NO JUSTIFICATION IN THE QUADRIPARTITE
AGREEMENT FOR THE GDR OR THE SOVIET UNION TO IMPEDE
TRANSIT ON THE BASIS OF EVENTS OCCURRING IN THE
WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN. FURTHERMORE, THE GDR HAS

NO COMPETENCE TO DETERMINE THE PROPRIETY OF ACTIVITIES
OR EVENTS IN THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN.

END TEXT

8. ACTION REQUESTED: URGENT GUIDANCE CONCERNING THE
CONTINGENCY PRESS STATEMENT AND FOLLOW-UP PRESS
GUIDANCE IN PARAGRAPHS 6 AND 7 ABOVE, AS REQUESTED IN
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REF B.
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Message Attributes

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